

28  
27. A method as claimed in claim 25 wherein each frame member is formed by interconnecting four individual frame sections.

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28. A method unit module as claimed in claim 27 wherein each frame member is formed by welding joists of a C-shaped cross-section.

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29. A method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising [including] connecting plural parallel cross runners extending widthwise to the endmost frame member.

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30. A method as claimed in claim 25 wherein the lattice framework is formed of light gauge steel.

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31. A method of forming a building comprising forming a plurality of modules by the method of claim 25, further comprising the steps of stacking the modules one atop the other and side by side and interconnecting the modules by connecting the lattice framework of each module to the lattice framework of each adjacent module.

#### REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted after an interview with Examiner Nguyen.

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted with the filing of an RCE and subsequent to an interview at the Patent Office on October 10, 2002 in which Examiner C. Nguyen and SPE Lana Mai participated.

During that interview, numerous issues were discussed, and a suggestion was made to amend the pending apparatus claims to add multiple floors as part of the primary independent claim. Upon further reflection, the undersigned realized that such claims would be so limiting as to enable easy avoidance of the claims and avoidance of the invention.

As a consequence, and upon further reflection and a discussion with our British patent attorney counterpart, we have decided to submit the method claims similar to those originally filed.

The primary prior art to Bowers is unrelated to the assembly of a modular building unit in accordance with the steps of the method in the pending claim. Further, the citation to the animal cages is also unrelated, as the animal cages are not likely to be assembled in the manner set forth in the building frame, since the building frame individual rectangular members are large, heavy rectangles which are vertically oriented prior to securing the

horizontal runn rs. There is no suggestion of any method of assembling a lattice wire animal cage in accordance with the teachings of this invention.

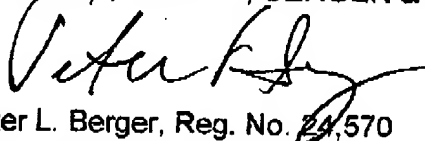
We realize any indication of possible patentability at te time of the interview is not binding on the Patent Office, and further art may be discovered which causes a change in any preliminary opinion.

Additionally, a three month extension of time is requested and the Patent Office is given authorization to charge our deposit account 02-2105.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

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